

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 49

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 86

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 49—Relative to the Olympic Games.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 12, 2011.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 49, Gaines. Olympic Games.

This measure would commend and encourage the California Winter Games Committee to further pursue the opportunity to host the Winter Olympic Games in the Lake Tahoe region. The measure would also recognize June 23, 2011, as International Olympic Day.

WHEREAS, The California Winter Games Committee is a nonprofit organization, comprised of leaders from the business community, political arena, and nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations, whose mission is to explore hosting a future Winter Olympic Games in the Lake Tahoe region; and

WHEREAS, The United States Olympic Committee (USOC) may solicit as early as next year for the 2022 Winter Games bid process; and

WHEREAS, The California Winter Games Committee will explore how to best position the state for a bid to host the Winter Games; and

WHEREAS, Competing for a host-city Winter Olympics bid will be a valuable endeavor for California that will bring together our communities to highlight our state’s best assets on the world stage; and

WHEREAS, The California Winter Games Committee will work closely alongside Nevada’s Reno-Tahoe Winter Games Coalition to promote both states’ individual and combined interests in a future Winter Olympic Games; and

WHEREAS, The Winter Olympics in Tahoe are expected to bring regional economic benefits based on data showing that the Salt Lake City 2002 Winter Olympic Games brought seventy-six million dollars (\$76,000,000) to state and local government, created 35,000 jobs, and brought one billion five hundred million dollars (\$1,500,000,000) in labor income; and

WHEREAS, The Tahoe region has a rich heritage of Olympic history for hosting the 1960 Squaw Valley Olympic Games; and

WHEREAS, The Tahoe region is equipped to host the Winter Olympic Games with world class ski resorts, desirable accommodations, and the recognized ability of the United States to host a very successful Olympic Games; and

WHEREAS, Early public opinion polling commissioned by the California Winter Games Committee shows that 90 percent of California residents

polled overwhelmingly support California leaders pursuing the Winter Olympic Games in the Lake Tahoe region; and

WHEREAS, The public opinion poll also showed that 95 percent of Californians polled believe hosting the games would have a positive impact on the economy overall; and

WHEREAS, Hosting the Winter Olympic Games will enhance California's international image; and

WHEREAS, Hosting the Winter Olympic Games in California will increase tourism interest as Olympic attendees will likely travel through other parts of California taking advantage of the state's airports, wine countries, museums, hospitality, scenery, and outdoor activities; and

WHEREAS, The first modern Olympic Games were held in Athens in the year 1896; and

WHEREAS, International Olympic Day was first celebrated on June 23, 1948; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature commends and encourages the California Winter Games Committee to further pursue the opportunity to host the Winter Olympic Games in the Lake Tahoe region; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature recognizes June 23, 2011, as International Olympic Day; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the United States Olympic Committee and the California Winter Games Committee, and to the author for appropriate distribution.